

1979

Summary of Energy Programs

Maine Office of Energy Resources

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SUMMARY OF ENERGY PROGRAMS

MAINE OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES

JUN 14 1979

INTRODUCTION

The Office of Energy Resources (OER) was established by an Act of the Maine State Legislature and Governor on June 26, 1975 in order to provide the State with an organizational mechanism to deal with the energy problems that Maine will be facing in upcoming years. Situated in the Executive Department of Maine State government, the OER was also designated as the State's lead agency in administering the energy programs of the Federal Government in Maine.

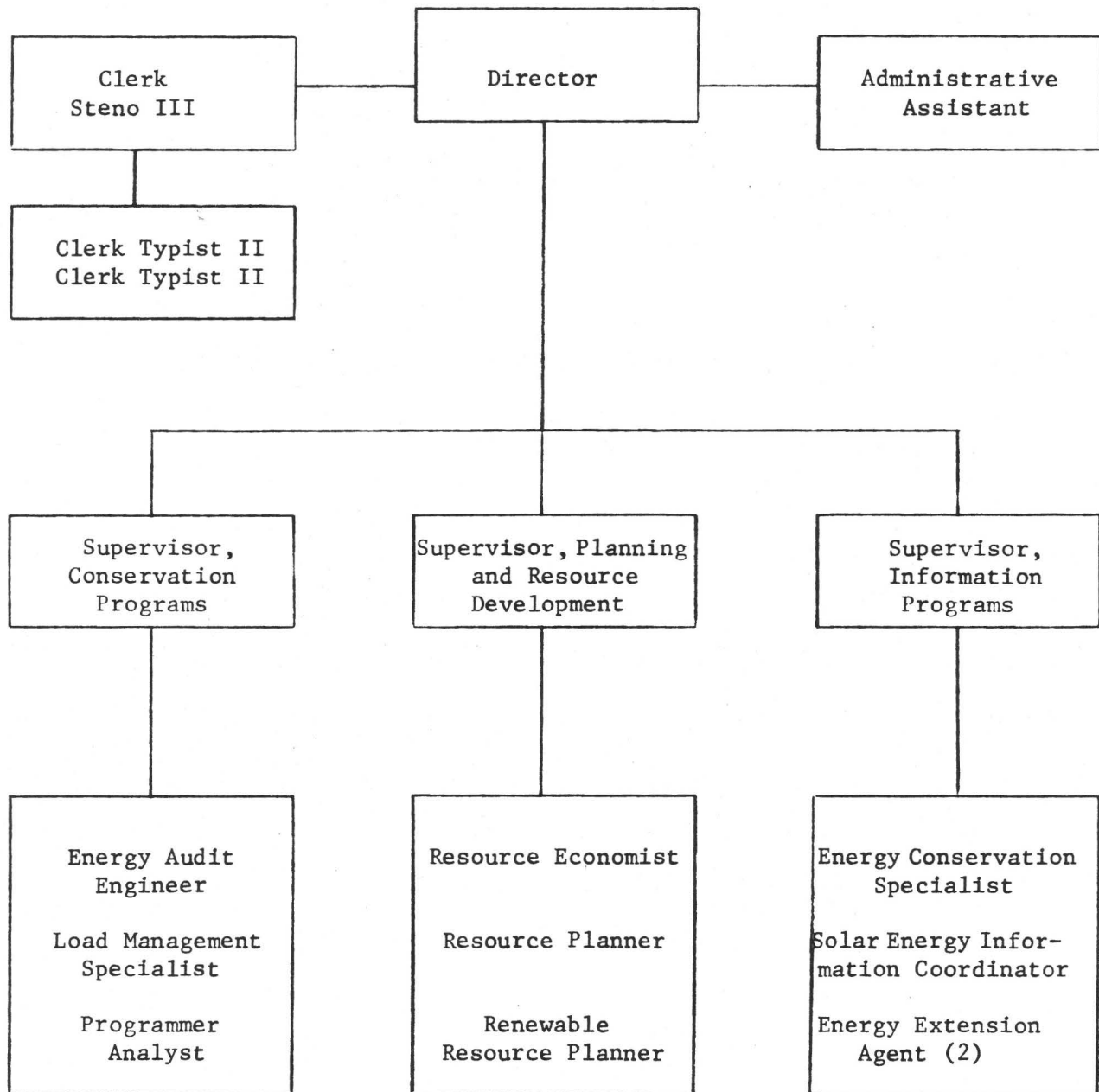
Chapter 587 of Maine's Public Laws of 1975 lists the following as the primary duties and responsibilities of the Maine Office of Energy Resources:

- to prepare a comprehensive energy resources plan to be revised and updated at least annually and more often as the Director of the Office of Energy Resources or the State Legislature deems necessary.
- to prepare a State energy policy which shall include the direction or directions most feasible for Maine to pursue in the field of Energy Resources use and development, feasible alternatives to implement the State Energy Plan and long range as well as short range energy programs.
- to encourage voluntary energy conservation among State and local government, industry, business, and the public for the most efficient utilization of available energy.
- to collect and analyze data from all available energy sources in and outside the State.
- to provide technical assistance to the Governor and Legislature in identifying the emergency and long-range needs and resources to meet these needs for the State.

- to provide planning and technical assistance to public and private groups in the field of energy planning, upon request.
- to encourage, direct, or sponsor research and experiments to develop those alternate energy resources indigenous to the State of Maine.
- to encourage and direct, in conjunction with private industry, the practical development and operation on a small scale of experimental projects involving alternate energy sources.

MAINE OFFICE OF ENERGY RESOURCES

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



DIVISION OF CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Objective:

To develop the Maine State Energy Conservation Plan and to implement the programs contained in that plan, with the exception of general information dissemination and education.

Major Programs

- Development and annual update of the State of Maine Energy Conservation Plan.
- Establishment of the Maine Residential Energy Audit Program (R.E.A.P.) to enable homeowners to determine the most cost effective methods that they can employ to conserve energy in their homes.
- Establishment of an energy audit program for Commercial Buildings to provide information to proprietors in need of energy conservation technical assistance.
- Staff assistance to the Maine Commission on Energy Efficiency Building Performance Standards and the development of legislation to implement the recommendations of that Commission.
- Development of transportation programs to promote the use of vanpools.
- Study to establish a motor vehicle inspection program to determine the fuel efficiency of motor vehicles.
- Administration of contracts to promote the use of public transportation in Maine's primary urban areas.
- Implementation of energy conservation procurement standards and practices for state government, in cooperation with the State Bureau of Purchases.
- Development of a data management and analysis program to assist in the forecasting and management of energy problems.

- Management of a contract with the Maine Municipal Association to conduct a local government Energy Management Program
- Analysis of Maine's future electric needs to include an evaluation of the economic costs of various supply alternatives and the impacts of various load management alternatives.

DIVISION OF PLANNING AND RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

Objective:

To assess the short and long-term energy needs in the State of Maine and to develop plans to utilize available energy resources to meet those needs.

Major Programs:

- Development and annual update of the Maine Comprehensive Energy Plan.
- Study of the impact of alternative energy resources on Maine's Energy future. Resources to be examined include small scale hydroelectric power, wood, tidal power, PEAT, solar energy, wind, solid waste, and methane.
- Monitoring of resource development projects being conducted in the State of Maine by groups outside of state government; e.g. Wheelabrator
 - Clean Fuels.
- Study of the impact of Conventional energy resources to meet Maine's present and future energy needs, to include oil, natural gas, nuclear power, and coal.
- Development of an Energy Emergency Contingency Plan in the event of energy supply cutbacks and shortages.
- Continuation of efforts to establish a Regional Petroleum Reserve (RPR) of residual oil in the New England Region.
- Examination of the potential for locating energy production facilities on the Maine coast.
- Coordination of statewide involvement in the U.S. Department of Energy's Appropriate Technology Small Grants Program.
- State Administration of the Federal Mandatory Allocation Program for petroleum products.

DIVISION OF INFORMATION PROGRAMS

Objective:

To develop an effective energy information and education program to inform individuals and members of the Maine business community of opportunities to conserve energy and utilize renewable energy resources.

Major Programs

- Development of an energy education minigrants program to assist Maine teachers in incorporating energy into school curricula.
- Administration of a contract for an energy in-service training program for Maine teachers.
- Continuation of a small business energy management program to include seminars and workshops for business executives and operations and maintenance personnel.
- Co-Sponsorship, in conjunction with the Associated Industries of Maine, of the "C" awards program, designed to recognize the energy conservation efforts of Maine businesses and industries.
- Development of general energy information programs to include Energy Conservation Month, Energy Displays and Exhibits, an Energy Slide Show and a bimonthly energy newsletter.
- Administration of the Maine Solar Hot Water Demonstration Grant Program.
- Monitoring of federal solar energy program opportunities for Maine individuals and solar user groups.
- Organization of workshops for members of Maine's Solar Energy User Groups, e.g., builders, architects, engineers, bankers.
- Development of standards for the safe installation of woodstoves and dissemination of the standard to Maine's municipalities.

- Coordination of the annual legislative program of the OER.
- Assistance to Legislators and legislative staff in the drafting of energy legislation.

SOURCE OF FUNDING 1978

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DESIGNATED USE</u>
New England Regional Commission	\$100,000.00	Planning, Resource Development, Policy Analysis
Department of Energy	559,000.00	Planning and Implementation of the Maine State Energy Conservation Plan
Northeast Solar Energy Center	54,000.00	Development of a State solar Energy Commercialization Program
State of Maine	46,000.00	OER Director's Salary and Support Services (\$16,000 was also appropriated in 1978 for the Maine Solar Hot Water Demonstration Grant Program)
New England River Basins Commission	<u>17,000.00</u>	Inventory of Potential Hydroelectric Power Sites in Maine
TOTAL	<u>\$776,000.00</u>	

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM RESPONSIBILITIES 1979

Energy Extension Service

The Department of Energy is presently funding a statewide Energy Extension Service in ten states throughout the country on a pilot basis. It is expected that during 1979 a decision will be made by the Congress to extend this pilot project to all 50 states. When this decision is made, Maine will submit a plan to the U.S. Department of Energy for a statewide Energy Extension Service. If the plan is accepted, a grant will be made available for the implementation of that Extension Service.

Schools and Hospitals Program

The National Energy Act (NEA) calls for a program of grants to schools and hospitals for the auditing and retrofitting of their buildings. The Office of Energy Resources will be coordinating Maine's involvement in this program. This role will encompass the following:

- developing a State plan for participation in the program
- establishing guidelines and priorities for the disbursement of available monies and
- awarding grants to individual schools and hospitals.

Residential Energy Conservation Plan

The National Energy Act (NEA) also establishes a program for the encouragement of energy conservation in the residential sector, the Residential Conservation Service. The OER's role in this program will be major and will involve the development of a plan which requires major utilities and participating home heating oil suppliers to:

- 1) Inform their customers of suggested energy savings measures;

- 2) Provide on-site energy audit services to customers requesting them;
- 3) Provide cost and energy saving data on the audit's suggested measures; and
- 4) Provide listing of suppliers and installers of energy conserving measures as well as lists of financing sources.

The Office of Energy Resources will then implement this plan and monitor the progress of the Residential Conservation Service.